

COMMUNICATION PRACTICES,
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

NARRATIVES REWIRED

EXPLORING GENDER, AI, AND
STORYTELLING IN THE CLASSROOM

A GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

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INTRODUCTION

Inspired by Section J.2 of the Beijing Platform for Action, which promotes a balanced and non-stereotyped **portrayal of women in the media**, and the class of Communication Practices, Diversity, and Inclusion, this teacher's manual takes a creative approach to merging **artificial intelligence** (AI), **gender perspectives**, and **innovative storytelling**.

Recognizing that **education** is the foundation for **shaping future generations**, this resource was designed to promote meaningful **change** in the classroom. Change is essential for fostering **inclusivity**, addressing diverse student needs, and breaking down barriers related to race, **gender**, socioeconomic status, and learning abilities.

Inside, educators will find six short stories spanning three distinct genres: Sci-Fi, Romance, and Fairytale. Each story was crafted using *ChatGPT*, featuring both female and male protagonists to explore and examine biases within AI-generated content and storytelling.

To support classroom discussions, the manual includes thought-provoking questions designed to spark dialogue, encourage critical thinking, and inspire action toward creating a more equitable and inclusive world.



THE SHORT STORIES

To create the stories, we asked *ChatGPT* this question:

Create a short story of 300 words, [story genre], with a [female / male] main character. Please be descriptive about the main character, their personality, their appearance, and their role.

01

Sci-Fi

Male
Female

02

Romance

Male
Female

03

Fairytale

Male
Female

In the following pages, you will read all the 6 short stories. We encourage you to try to spot any biases. As the educator, think about these *questions:

1. **What is the problem represented to be?**
2. **What are the assumptions underlying the concepts and words used?**
3. **What are the causes of inequality identified?**
4. **How did the representation of the problem arise?**

Finally, think about what solution you and your students can propose to address these problems.



THE LUMINA KEY


Sci-Fi Female

Lira Voss stood on the bridge of her vessel, The Celestial Warden, her silhouette bathed in the cool blue glow of distant starlight. She was tall and lean, her jet-black hair pulled into a sharp braid that trailed to the small of her back. A streak of silver at her temple framed her face, a contrast to her copper-toned skin. Her eyes, an unnatural shade of violet, gleamed with intelligence—enhanced by a neural implant that pulsed faintly beneath her temple. She wore a sleek navy jumpsuit with gold accents, the insignia of the Galactic Archivists embroidered over her heart.

Lira was no soldier, but she fought a different kind of war: the battle to preserve knowledge in a galaxy intent on forgetting. As a Keeper, her mission was to recover artifacts from dying worlds. Her latest assignment had brought her to the ruins of Proxima 7, a planet consumed by its own collapsing star.

The artifact, known as the Lumina Key, rested in her gloved hand. It was small, almost insignificant—a crystalline shard that shimmered with an internal light. Yet, it contained the collective memories of an ancient civilization.

Lira's role was to ensure it reached the Galactic Vault, safe from scavengers and warlords who would weaponize it.





THE LUMINA KEY


Sci-Fi Female

As she studied the artifact, the ship's AI interrupted. "Captain, an unregistered vessel is approaching."

Lira's lips curved into a wry smile. "Of course. They always come." Her fingers danced across the console, preparing defensive protocols. She wasn't the kind to panic; years of navigating hostile space had taught her to stay calm, even in chaos.

"Let them come," she muttered. "The Key belongs to history, not to greed."

With the artifact secure, Lira faced the encroaching danger with unwavering resolve. For her, every fragment of knowledge was worth fighting for.





ECHOES OF THE INFINITE

Sci-Fi Male

Jaxon Rhys adjusted the strap of his oxygen pack as he navigated the labyrinthine tunnels beneath the city of Eonspire. His broad shoulders barely fit through the narrow passageways, and the dim light of his wrist lamp cast jagged shadows against his weathered face. His hazel eyes, flecked with gold, seemed to absorb every detail, scanning for the telltale shimmer of the artifact he was after. His dark brown hair was cropped short, and a jagged scar traced his jawline—a reminder of an encounter with a rogue synthetic back on Sigma-9.

Jaxon was a Relic Diver, a scavenger of lost tech from the Forgotten Epochs. Unlike the others in his dangerous profession, he wasn't in it for the credits. He dove for answers, chasing whispers of the long-dead architects of humanity's interstellar rise.

Tonight, he was after the Echo Sphere, a device rumored to store fragments of time itself. Legend had it that the Sphere could replay moments from the past, offering glimpses into humanity's greatest triumphs—and darkest failures.

Jaxon crouched as the tunnel widened into a cavern. In the center, suspended in a gravity field, was the Echo Sphere. Its surface glimmered like liquid silver, rippling with phantom images.



ECHOES OF THE INFINITE

Sci-Fi Male


As Jaxon stepped closer, his heart thrummed.

“Gotcha,” he muttered, extending a gloved hand.

The Sphere pulsed, projecting an image: a towering city, skies filled with ships, and a young man—Jaxon himself—standing among them.

Jaxon’s chest tightened. This was no relic of the past. It was a glimpse of what was to come.

Behind him, footsteps echoed. Rivals. His hand closed around the Sphere as his determination solidified. If the future could be shaped, it would need someone who understood the weight of its history. Someone like him.



SCI-FI ANALYSIS

FEMALE

Physical Description:

- sharp braid
- copper-toned skin
- eyes, an unnatural shade of violet
- lips curved
- fingers danced

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- gleamed with intelligence—enhanced by a neural implant
- was no soldier, but she fought a different kind of war: a battle to preserve knowledge
- had taught her to stay calm, even in chaos

MALE

Physical Description:

- broad shoulders
- dark brown hair, cropped short
- jagged scar traced his jawline
- scavenger

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- his dangerous profession
- determination
- [the future] would need...someone like him

ANALYSIS

- Female is more passive as a “hero” compared to male who is highlighted as someone in a dangerous profession
 - Female story focuses on protagonist’s intelligence and ends with how she felt knowledge was worth fighting for
 - Male story focuses on protagonist’s physical strength & determination and ends with the ideal future shaped by someone like him
 - The female character's role is simply delivering and defending with "assistance" by an AI and whose intelligence is also “assisted” by a neural implant
 - Comparatively, the male character's role is active scavenge hunting, with the fate of the universe on his hands
- Both characters are described under hegemonic beauty stereotypes
- Although the female character is not associated with characteristics of physical strength, her calm and strong character are highlighted:
 - “Lira faced the encroaching danger with unwavering resolve”.
- In the story with a male character, some emotions stand out:
 - “As Jaxon stepped closer, his heart thrummed”; “Jaxon’s chest tightened”



THE SONG OF AMBER LANE

Romance Female

Amber Lane had always been a romantic at heart, though she kept it well hidden behind a veil of practicality. At twenty-eight, she was a librarian in the small seaside town of Lornhaven. Her auburn hair cascaded in loose waves down her back, matching the warm freckles scattered across her pale skin. She had piercing green eyes, framed by dark lashes, that seemed to drink in the world. Beneath her reserved demeanor, Amber was curious and compassionate, though a touch timid when it came to her own heart.

Amber's days were quiet and predictable, but her evenings belonged to her music. Her skill on the violin was well-known, and every Friday evening, she played on the town square's modest stage. It was her way of speaking without words, her melodies weaving stories of longing and love.

One evening, amidst her performance, her gaze met a stranger's. He was tall, with stormy gray eyes and a crooked smile. He stood apart from the crowd, his unruly dark hair whipped by the wind, as though he, too, was caught in the melody's spell.




THE SONG OF AMBER LANE

Romance Female

After the performance, he approached her, introducing himself as Elias Morgan, a photographer passing through town. They spoke by the flickering streetlamp until the night grew cold. Amber, usually so cautious, found herself laughing easily. Elias was charming, but it was his sensitivity to her music that captured her heart.

Over the next week, they explored Lornhaven together—its rocky shores, its quiet forests. Amber learned that Elias was searching for something he couldn't name, and she realized her music had given him a sense of direction.

When it came time for Elias to leave, he handed her a photograph of her playing the violin, sunlight painting her in gold. "You've given me more than you know," he said, and Amber, heart full, vowed to keep her Fridays open for his return.





THE BOOKSTORE ENCOUNTER

Romance Male

Julian Carter was the kind of man who made people look twice—not just for his sharp cheekbones or the rakish lock of jet-black hair that always fell over his brow, but for the quiet warmth he exuded. Tall and lean, he carried himself with the grace of someone who had learned patience through years of practice. His deep brown eyes, flecked with gold, held an unspoken depth, like he was always just about to share a secret but never did. He wore his usual uniform: a tailored navy sweater, dark jeans, and boots polished enough to catch the light but not too shiny to seem pretentious.

By day, Julian worked as a history professor, captivating his students with his wit and love for forgotten stories. By night, he wandered the city, a creature of habit yet forever chasing serendipity. This particular evening, it came in the form of a woman at a small, dimly lit bookstore.

She was standing in the history section, her fingers tracing the spines of the books like they were old friends. Something about the way she tilted her head, her auburn hair catching the amber glow of the overhead light, froze Julian in place.



THE BOOKSTORE ENCOUNTER


Romance Male

"Looking for something specific?" he asked, his voice smooth yet tentative.

She turned, her green eyes meeting his with curiosity and a touch of amusement. "Maybe. Do you believe books find you, or do you find them?"

Julian smiled, his heart doing an unfamiliar flip. "A bit of both, I think."

They fell into conversation, their words weaving a world of shared curiosities and quiet laughter. As the store closed, Julian realized something he'd taught his students but rarely felt himself: history isn't always found in books. Sometimes, it's made in moments. And for Julian, this was one he'd never forget.



ROMANCE ANALYSIS

FEMALE

Physical Description:

- warm freckles, pale skin
- auburn hair, in loose waves down her back
- piercing green eyes, dark lashes

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- reserved
- curious, compassionate
- timid
- romantic at heart with a veil of practicality
- musician, librarian

MALE

Physical Description:

- sharp cheekbones
- rakish lock of jet-black hair
- tall, lean
- deep, brown eyes

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- quiet warmth
- patient
- history professor
- creature of habit yet forever chasing serendipity
- captivating with his wit

ANALYSIS

- In both stories, the male character made the first move to the female
- Both stories describe males and females in hegemonic beauty stereotypes
- The female protagonist's profession as a librarian is mentioned but not a crucial part of the plot and her character
- The male protagonist's profession as a history professor is highlighted by the impact it generates on others and is a crucial point of the story
- The female character's personality is romantic and shy, while the male character is attractive, witty, and captivates everyone around him
- In the story with the female protagonist, she is attracted to the male character for his personality
 - "it was his sensitivity to her music that captured her heart"
- On the other hand, in the story with the male protagonist, he is attracted to the female character for her physical traits
 - "Something about the way she tilted her head, her auburn hair catching the amber glow of the overhead light, froze Julian in place"
- In the story with the female protagonist, romance is something that happens to her, and in the end "vowed to keep her Fridays open for his return"




THE CLOCKMAKER'S DAUGHTER

Fairytale Female

Elara, with her flaxen hair tied in a ribbon of silver silk, sat beneath the gnarled branches of an ancient willow. Her pale blue eyes, like shards of a winter sky, scanned the intricate gears and springs she balanced in her slender hands. Though barely seventeen, her fingers moved with the precision of a master artisan, breathing life into broken things.

She was the clockmaker's daughter, the only child of a widowed man who crafted timepieces for the bustling village of Marrowby. But Elara's creations went beyond mere clocks; her delicate hands wove enchantments into every mechanism. Where her father saw function, Elara saw stories waiting to be told.

One morning, as she polished the brass face of an ornate pocket watch, a shadow fell across her workbench. A boy stood there, his face streaked with soot and his coat torn. "They say you can fix anything," he whispered, holding out a battered music box.





THE CLOCKMAKER'S DAUGHTER


Fairytale Female

Elara's heart stirred at the sorrow in his voice. She opened the box, revealing its warped gears. It hummed faintly, a melody struggling to escape. "I'll need a day," she said softly, sensing the magic trapped within.

As she worked through the night, Elara discovered a curious secret: the box housed the heart of a forest sprite, stolen and locked away to weaken the enchanted woods nearby.

When dawn broke, Elara returned the box, its melody restored. The boy smiled—a strange, knowing smile—and vanished, leaving behind a grove of saplings where he'd stood.

From that day, the willow trees whispered Elara's name, calling her the Keeper of Broken Stories. And in the quiet corners of Marrowby, people swore they saw her silver ribbon glinting in the woods, where her magic healed not just mechanisms but the forgotten heart of the land itself.






THE LANTERN KEEPER

Fairytale Male

Deep in the misty valley of Eldenlight, where the stars touched the earth, lived Cael, the Lantern Keeper. He was a tall, wiry man with windswept auburn hair that framed a face weathered by countless nights under the moon.

His emerald-green eyes held a perpetual gleam, a reflection of the magic he carried. Dressed in a long, patched cloak of deep indigo, stitched with threads of silver starlight, he bore a single brass lantern at his side—a lantern that never dimmed.

Cael was the protector of the Starfire, an eternal flame gifted by the heavens to guide lost souls. By day, he wandered the valley, gathering tales from travelers and tending to the paths that wound through the dense forest. By night, he lit the lantern and ascended to the cliff's edge, its golden glow cutting through the fog like a beacon.





THE LANTERN KEEPER

Fairytale Male


One evening, a trembling child appeared at his cottage door, claiming her village was cursed with endless darkness. Without hesitation, Cael slung the lantern over his shoulder and took the child's hand. They journeyed through shadowed woods and across icy rivers, the Starfire illuminating the way.

When they reached the village, Cael held the lantern high, revealing a monstrous shadow coiled around the town's heart. The creature hissed, its form unraveling as the Starfire's brilliance pierced it.

"Begone," Cael commanded, his voice calm but firm. The shadow dissolved, leaving the village bathed in soft starlight.

The villagers hailed Cael as a hero, but he shook his head. "The Starfire belongs to all," he said, smiling gently.

With his task complete, Cael vanished into the mist, the child swearing she saw his lantern flicker high in the cliffs, where the light of hope never wavered.



FAIRYTALE ANALYSIS

FEMALE

Physical Description:

- flaxen hair tied in a ribbon of silver silk
- pale blue eyes
- slender hands, delicate hands

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- clockmaker's daughter, only child of a widowed man
- father saw function, she saw stories waiting to be told
- heart stirred
- her magic healed the forgotten heart of the land

MALE

Physical Description:

- tall, wiry
- windswept hair
- calm but firm voice
- face weathered by countless nights under the moon

Highlights on Personality Traits:

- Lantern Keeper, protector
- dressed in a long, patched cloak in deep indigo

ANALYSIS

- Female protagonist is described as a widowed man's daughter while the male protagonist is portrayed as a protector
- Both characters are described under hegemonic beauty stereotypes
- Female story portrays her as someone who is sensitive ("heart stirred") and imaginative ("saw stories waiting to be told")
- Male character's appearance description is more related to role, whereas female character's is focused on mere physical features
- The female character is attributed with positive emotions and is discreet, while the male character is described as adventurous and confident when giving help
 - "I'll need a day," she said softly"; "Elara's heart stirred at the sorrow in his voice"
 - "Without hesitation, Cael slung the lantern over his shoulder and took the child's hand. They journeyed through shadowed woods and across icy rivers, the Starfire illuminating the way"
- The male character is described as someone who "villagers hailed as a hero"
- Although the female character is valued at the end of the story, she is not described as a heroine but rather as someone who has simply "healed" the land
- The female is a fixer and healer while the male is the protector and hero

TABLE 1

GENRE: _____

FILL OUT TABLE 1 BASED ON THE CHARACTERS OF EACH STORY.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION <i>What words are used to describe the character's physical traits?</i>	THOUGHTS & FEELINGS <i>What does the character think? How do they feel?</i>	SPEECH & ACTIONS <i>What kind of things does the character say? How does the character react to events?</i>
PERSONALITY TRAITS & CHARACTERISTICS <i>Based on the descriptions of their physical traits, their thoughts/feelings, and their speech/actions, how do you perceive each character and their personalities?</i>		
FEMALE:	MALE:	



ACTiViTY: CLASSROOM DiSCUSSION

After carefully reading the stories, encourage a reflective discussion among the students. Here are some suggested questions to help them dissect the biases in each story.

1. **Are female and male characters represented equally throughout the story?**
2. **Does the story depict female and male characters with the same level of respect and potential, particularly in areas like careers or future aspirations?**
3. **Does the narrative consider and reflect the needs and experiences of both male and female characters?**
4. **How are personality traits assigned to the characters? Do they align with traditional notions of femininity or masculinity?**
5. **How is physical appearance described? Are there differences in how feminine and masculine features are portrayed?**



TABLE 2

DESCRIBE YOURSELF!

EXTERNAL TRAITS

Characteristics that you can see

INTERNAL TRAITS

Characteristics on the inside that can be shown through thoughts, feelings, actions, or words

Activity: Choose 1 genre and change the protagonist's traits for both stories based on your own traits!

CLASS DISCUSSION:

DO YOU FEEL A DIFFERENCE IN CHANGING THE TRAITS FOR BOTH MALE & FEMALE CHARACTERS COMPARED TO THE ORIGINAL VERSIONS GENERATED BY AI?



ACTIVITY: CREATIVE WRITING

Students will take 15 minutes to write a short story and try to be as descriptive as possible about the main character.

Teachers may suggest prompts to guide their writing such as:

- Write about a character who can see the future
- Write about a doctor who saves someone's life
- Write about a detective who solves crimes
- Write about a character who discovers a secret portal



ACTIVITY:

AI IMAGE GENERATION

Copy-paste story into ChatGPT and generate image of the main character. Ensure the prompt used is the same for everyone.

Example:

- Please generate an image of the main character based on my story.
- 이 소설을 바탕으로 이미지를 생성해줘.
- Podes criar uma imagem baseada nessa história curta.

CLASS DISCUSSION

Gather all images and compare.

- What do we notice based on the images?
- Do these images generated by AI show what you had in mind while writing your story?
- What differences do you notice in how the character looks like based on the AI-generated image and what you originally imagined?

Expand and share ideas with classmates.

One alternative is to introduce other ways of criticizing other than gender (eg. expanding into the concept of intersectionality).



CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE ANALYSIS

Here are examples of AI-generated images through ChatGPT. These examples were generated based on the Romance stories for both male and female in the contexts of 5 different countries.



KOREA



USA



GERMANY

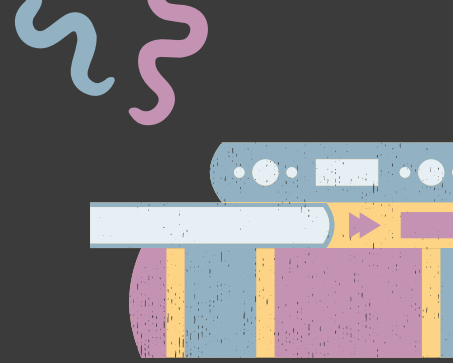


BRAZIL



CHILE





RESOURCES

1. EUROPEAN UNION: EDUCATIONAL TOOLKIT TO HELP FIGHT GENDER STEREOTYPES IN SECONDARY SCHOOL. ACCESS [HERE](#).
2. AI & GENDER EQUALITY ARTICLE. ACCESS [HERE](#).

